Appendix 2

Questionnaire

for Parents

BRINGING FAMILIES AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS CLOSER TOGETHER

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Note : This tool is part of a kit that includes two other documents: an inventory of school practices and a companion guide that outlines the entire process and provides additional material. Several people from the education community and partner organizations validated the kit's content. A list of these people can be found in the Companion Guide.

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QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PARENTS

FOCUS AREA 1. *DIVERSIFYING AND FACILITATING COMMUNICATION BETWEEN PARENTS AND THE SCHOOL*

Your teenager(s) is (are) enrolled at _____ **School in:**
(name of school)

- Secondary I ☐
- Secondary II ☐
- Secondary III ☐
- Secondary IV ☐
- Secondary V ☐
- Other (specify) _____

We wish to diversify and facilitate communication between parents,

_____

School and its staff (teachers, nonteaching professionals, support and administrative staff).

This means, for example,
implementing effective communication tools between parents and the school, providing all the information you need to adequately support your teenager and ensuring that you receive a warm welcome at the school.

A *What do you think about the communication between parents and the school?*

Choose the appropriate number: ☑

	▲ I totally disagree	▲ I somewhat disagree	▲ I somewhat agree	▲ I totally agree
1. In general, it is easy to speak with the teachers.	1	2	3	4
2. In general, it is easy to speak with the school principal.	1	2	3	4
3. The school has an area to receive parents.	1	2	3	4
4. I am well received when I go to the school.	1	2	3	4
5. I am well informed of school activities.	1	2	3	4
6. I am well informed of my teenager's progress.	1	2	3	4
7. I am well informed of my teenager's behaviour.	1	2	3	4
8. I am well informed of opportunities for my teenager's future.	1	2	3	4
9. I am well informed of what my teenager learns in school.	1	2	3	4
10. I am well informed of the governing board's decisions and activities.	1	2	3	4
11. Written documents from the school are easy to understand.	1	2	3	4
12. When speaking to me, the school staff use language that is easy to understand.	1	2	3	4
13. When I have questions about the school or my child, it is easy to get an answer.	1	2	3	4
14. Contact with the school staff is generally positive.	1	2	3	4
15. Contact with the school staff is helpful to me.	1	2	3	4

	▲ I totally disagree	▲ I somewhat disagree	▲ I somewhat agree	▲ I totally agree
16. The school staff is available to meet with parents.	1	2	3	4
17. I know who to turn to in the school if I need information.	1	2	3	4
18. I can contact the school at times that are convenient for me.	1	2	3	4

Comments: _____

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B *What do you think could improve communication between parents and the school?*

Choose the appropriate number: ☑

	▲ Not at all important	▲ Somewhat important	▲ Important	▲ Very important
19. Use simple language in written communications.	1	2	3	4
20. Talk to parents using words that are easy to understand.	1	2	3	4
21. Give parents more opportunities to speak with the teachers.	1	2	3	4
22. Provide more information on the Québec Education Program.	1	2	3	4
23. Provide more information on the choice of courses in secondary school.	1	2	3	4
24. Provide more information on the school's rules.	1	2	3	4
25. Provide more information on my teenager's progress at school.	1	2	3	4
26. Provide more information on opportunities for the future (e.g. vocational and technical education, CEGEP).	1	2	3	4
27. Provide more information on school and extracurricular activities.	1	2	3	4

	▲ Not at all important	▲ Somewhat important	▲ Important	▲ Very important
28. Provide more information on report cards.	1	2	3	4
29. Provide more information on my child's development.	1	2	3	4
30. Provide more information on students' or other people's achievements.	1	2	3	4
31. Provide more information on my child's behaviour.	1	2	3	4
32. Contact me by telephone more often (e.g. try to reach me personally or leave a message so that I can return the call).	1	2	3	4
33. Contact me by e-mail more often.	1	2	3	4
34. Send more information documents home.	1	2	3	4
35. Have more meetings with parents.	1	2	3	4
36. Make parents feel more welcome at school.	1	2	3	4
37. Help me arrange transportation to meetings because I live far from the school (e.g. car pooling).	1	2	3	4
38. Provide a letter for my employer when I am called to the school.	1	2	3	4
39. Have activities for my teenager and my younger children during meetings at the school.	1	2	3	4
40. Have interpreters at the meetings.	1	2	3	4

Comments: _____

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR INPUT!

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PARENTS

HELPING PARENTS EXERCISE THEIR ROLE

Your teenager(s) is (are) enrolled at _____ **School in:**
(name of school)

Secondary I ☐
Secondary II ☐
Secondary III ☐
Secondary IV ☐
Secondary V ☐
Other (specify) _____

_____ ***School would like to know how we can keep you informed and what we can do to help you as a parent.***

This means, for example,
giving you information on how to talk to your teenager, help with homework, discuss opportunities for the future, understand the conditions that help students learn, and be familiar with the services that can help you as a parent.

A *Participation in meetings at the school*

If you participated in at least one meeting at the school this year:

Choose the appropriate number: ☑

	1 totally disagree	2 somewhat disagree	3 somewhat agree	4 totally agree
1. The information discussed met my needs.	1	2	3	4
2. The meeting times were convenient.	1	2	3	4
3. The length was reasonable.	1	2	3	4
4. It was easy to understand.	1	2	3	4
5. I received the invitations to the meetings.	1	2	3	4
6. I learned something new.	1	2	3	4
7. This information helped me with my teenager.	1	2	3	4
8. It gave me a good opportunity to talk to my teenager.	1	2	3	4

Comments: _____

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B. ***Non-participation in meetings at the school***
If you did not participate in any meeting at the school this year, please tell us why:

Check all that apply: ☑

9. I am not interested in this type of activity. ☐
10. I am unable to attend because of work. ☐
11. I did not receive enough information on these activities. ☐
12. I am too tired or busy to participate. ☐
13. It makes me uncomfortable. ☐
14. I already had the necessary information. ☐
15. I do not have a babysitter for my younger children. ☐
16. The school is too far from my home. ☐
17. I have limited access to transportation. ☐
18. I do not find the meeting times convenient. ☐
19. I did not receive any information. ☐
20. I had schedule conflicts. ☐
21. I do not speak English well enough. ☐

Comments: _____

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C *The school's role in keeping parents informed*

22. The school gives me information on my teenager's development.
For example: information on the supervision and support given my teenager, on his or her physical and mental health, and information that allows me to supervise and discuss schoolwork at home.

☐ YES ☐ NO

23. The school informs me of how important parent-teenager relationships are.
For example: how important it is to talk to my teenager about what he is she is going through at school, discuss his or her plans for the future, encourage my teenager in his or her achievements and plans.

☐ YES ☐ NO

24. The school organizes or tells me about services or activities that could help me as a parent. For example: homework assistance programs at school or in the community, support groups for parents and community resources.

☐ YES ☐ NO

Comments: _____

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_____

D *Topics of interest to parents*

What would you like more information on?

Check all that apply: ☑

25. The transition to secondary school ☐
26. A typical day at school ☐
27. My teenager's homework ☐
28. The educational reform at the secondary level ☐
29. Learning in different subjects ☐
30. The transition from secondary school to CEGEP ☐
31. The transition from a welcoming class to a regular class ☐
32. Report cards ☐
33. Students' experience in a combined class ☐
34. The possible paths in secondary school ☐
35. The difficulties my teenager is having ☐
36. My teenager's progress ☐
37. The support my teenager receives at school ☐
38. The choice of courses in secondary school ☐
39. Future opportunities for young people ☐
40. Support for young people (at home and at school) ☐
41. The importance of talking to and encouraging teenagers ☐
42. Intimidation among young people (taxing) ☐

D *Topics of interest to parents*

What would you like more information on?

Check all that apply: ☑

43. Difficult and violent behaviour ☐
44. Relationships between boys and girls ☐
45. Teenage sexuality (e.g. development, relationships, contraception) ☐
46. Physical and mental health (e.g. stress, depression, substance abuse, suicide prevention) ☐
47. Nutrition and eating disorders ☐
48. Vocational education and other qualification paths ☐
49. Information on Québec society and Québec's education system (for newcomers) ☐

Please indicate the numbers of the three topics that interest you most: ☐ ☐ ☐

Other subjects: _____

_____

_____

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_____

E. *Ways of keeping parents informed*

Would you like to...

50. discuss these topics with resource persons in meetings?	☐ YES	☐ NO
51. discuss these topics with other parents so that you can help each other?	☐ YES	☐ NO
52. read a document or watch a video (at home) on these topics?	☐ YES	☐ NO
53. find information on the Internet or elsewhere?	☐ YES	☐ NO

Other suggestions: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

F. ***Making it easier for parents to participate in meetings***
Would you like to...

54. have access to activities for your teenager or younger children during these meetings? ☐ YES ☐ NO

55. have help finding transportation to these meetings? ☐ YES ☐ NO

56. have interpreters at these meetings? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Other suggestions: _____

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Other comments: _____

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR INPUT!

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PARENTS

FOCUS AREA 3 *ENCOURAGING PARENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN SCHOOL LIFE*

Your teenager(s) is (are) enrolled at _____ **School in:**
(name of school)

Secondary I ☐
Secondary II ☐
Secondary III ☐
Secondary IV ☐
Secondary V ☐
Other (specify) _____

_____ ***School would like to know how to encourage parents to be more involved in school life and participate in different types of activities.***

This means, for example, attending a show put on by the students or an exhibit of their work, going on an excursion with the students, refereeing a sports activity, helping in the library or joining the governing board or the parent participation organization.

A *Participation in school activities (shows, sports, exhibits, etc.)*

If you took part in at least one activity at the school this year:

Choose the appropriate number: ☑

	▲ I totally disagree	▲ I somewhat disagree	▲ I somewhat agree	▲ I totally agree
1. I liked the activity.	1	2	3	4
2. I came because my teenager was taking part in the activity.	1	2	3	4
3. I felt shy.	1	2	3	4
4. I learned what my teenager does at school.	1	2	3	4
5. It made me want to participate even more.	1	2	3	4
6. I came because my teenager asked me.	1	2	3	4
7. A school staff member asked me to come (principal, teacher, other).	1	2	3	4
8. Another parent asked me to come.	1	2	3	4

Comments: _____

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B ***Non-participation in school activities***
If you did not take part in any activity at the school this year, please tell us why:

Check all that apply: ☑

9. I was unable to attend because of work. ☐
10. I was not interested. ☐
11. My teenager did not take part. ☐
12. I was too tired or busy. ☐
13. My teenager did not want me to attend. ☐
14. The school is too far from my home. ☐
15. I have limited access to transportation. ☐
16. I do not have a babysitter for my younger children. ☐
17. I am not very familiar with how the school operates. ☐
18. I do not know anyone at the school. ☐
19. I do not feel comfortable at the school. ☐
20. I was not informed about the activities. ☐
21. I was never invited to attend. ☐
22. I do not speak English well enough. ☐

Comments: _____

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C *Participation as a volunteer*

(talking about an occupation or hobby, going on an outing with the students, refereeing a sports activity)

If you volunteered at the school this year:

Choose the appropriate number: ☑

	1 I totally disagree	2 I somewhat disagree	3 I somewhat agree	4 I totally agree
23. I liked participating.	1	2	3	4
24. I did not know what to do.	1	2	3	4
25. It made me want to participate even more.	1	2	3	4
26. I was well prepared for what I had to do.	1	2	3	4
27. I felt that my participation was appreciated.	1	2	3	4

Comments: _____

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D *Non-participation as a volunteer*

If you did not volunteer at the school this year, please tell us why:

Check all that apply: ☑

28. I was unable to volunteer because of work. ☐
29. I was not interested. ☐
30. My teenager did not take part. ☐
31. I was too tired or busy. ☐
32. My teenager did not want me to participate. ☐
33. The school is too far from my home. ☐
34. I have limited access to transportation. ☐
35. I do not have a babysitter for my younger children. ☐
36. I do not speak English well enough. ☐
37. I am not very familiar with how the school operates. ☐
38. I do not know anyone at the school. ☐
39. I do not feel comfortable at the school. ☐
40. I was not informed about the activities. ☐
41. I would not know what to do. ☐
42. I was never asked to volunteer. ☐
43. I volunteer elsewhere. ☐

Comments: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

E *Making it easier for parents to volunteer*

Choose the appropriate number: ☑

	▲ Not at all important	▲ Somewhatimportant	▲ Important	▲ Very important
44. provide a suitable area on the school grounds where parents could meet.	1	2	3	4
45. tell me about the activities I could get involved in.	1	2	3	4
46. become more familiar with my interests, occupation, preferences, etc.	1	2	3	4
47. have activities or a daycare service for young children during parent volunteer meetings.	1	2	3	4
48. tell me before an activity begins what to do and how to do it.	1	2	3	4
49. show appreciation for my work as a volunteer.	1	2	3	4
50. set up a buddy system to support parents.	1	2	3	4

Other suggestions: _____

_____

_____

_____

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E. *Making it easier for parents to volunteer*

51. Would you be interested in becoming a parent volunteer?

☐ YES ☐ NO

If so, what activities would you like to volunteer for? _____

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Other comments: _____

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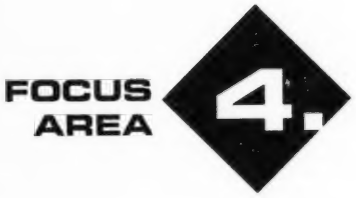
THANK YOU FOR YOUR INPUT!

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PARENTS



WORKING MORE CLOSELY WITH THE COMMUNITY TO MEET THE NEEDS OF FAMILIES AND YOUNG PEOPLE

SECTION 1:
WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY TO MEET THE NEEDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE

Your teenager(s) is (are) enrolled at _____ **School in:**
(name of school)

Secondary I ☐
Secondary II ☐
Secondary III ☐
Secondary IV ☐
Secondary V ☐
Other (specify) _____

_____ ***School would like to find out about your teenager's needs and preferences so we can help you meet those needs together with community organizations.***
Taking into account the possibilities and constraints of our community, we could determine, together with these organizations, whether it is possible to offer the most popular activities or services.

Some of the organizations the school works with include: municipal recreational services, CLSCs, community centres, youth centres, social clubs, family centres, youth prevention or intervention groups, etc.

A ***Knowledge of community organizations***

1. I am familiar with the local organizations.	☐ YES	☐ NO
2. My children or my teenager participate in activities at neighbourhood organizations.	☐ YES	☐ NO
3. I participate in the activities of certain organizations.	☐ YES	☐ NO

B. *Improving parents' knowledge of community organizations*

Would you like the school to help you...

Choose the appropriate number: ☑

	▲ Not at all important	▲ Somewhatimportant	▲ Important	▲ Very important
4. find out more about the services of the CLSC?	1	2	3	4
5. find out more about the recreational activities available in the community?	1	2	3	4
6. find out more about summer programs and job opportunities for young people?	1	2	3	4
7. find out more about the services in the neighbourhood or area?	1	2	3	4

Suggestions: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

C. *Parents' concerns*

As a parent, is it important to you

8. that safety be improved in the school's vicinity and in the parks near the school?	☐ YES	☐ NO
9. that the parks programs for teenagers be improved?	☐ YES	☐ NO
10. that the facilities in the schoolyard and parks be improved?	☐ YES	☐ NO

C. *Parents' concerns*

As a parent, is it important to you

11. to know who to turn to if you have problems with your teenager (e.g. running away, eating disorders, substance abuse)?	☐ YES	☐ NO
12. that your teenager know who to turn to if he or she wants to confide in someone other than you?	☐ YES	☐ NO
13. to know what organizations are in the neighbourhood, what activities they offer, when and how you can reach them (opening hours and phone number)?	☐ YES	☐ NO
14. that your teenager know who can help him or her with homework?	☐ YES	☐ NO
15. that your teenager know who to turn to if he or she is experiencing problems of violence (taxing, threats, etc.)?	☐ YES	☐ NO
16. that your teenager know who to turn to if he or she is unmotivated or feeling stressed or depressed?	☐ YES	☐ NO
17. that your teenager know who to turn to when the family is going through a difficult time (death, separation, divorce, illness).	☐ YES	☐ NO
18. what options you have if you're having difficulty paying for your children's activities.	☐ YES	☐ NO

Other concerns: _____

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_____

D *Cultural and scientific activities for young people*

What activities interest your teenager the most?

Check all that apply: ☑

19. Arts, drawing, painting, pottery, etc. ☐
20. Singing, choir, music, band ☐
21. Dance ☐
22. Photography ☐
23. Cinema ☐
24. Video games ☐
25. Computers, information technology, the Internet, etc. ☐
26. Scientific activities ☐
27. Putting on shows, festivals, galas ☐
28. Theatre ☐
29. The student café ☐
30. The prom ☐
31. School radio ☐
32. Student council ☐
33. A babysitting course ☐
34. Volunteering ☐
35. Cooking ☐
36. Other: ☐

Please indicate the numbers of the three cultural and scientific activities that interest your teenager most: ☐ ☐ ☐

E *Sports activities for young people*

What team sports interest your teenager the most?

Check all that apply: ☑

37. Hockey ☐
38. Ringette ☐
39. Cosom hockey ☐
40. Basketball ☐
41. Badminton ☐
42. Soccer ☐
43. Tennis ☐
44. Volleyball ☐
45. Football ☐
46. Softball or baseball ☐
47. Other: ☐

What individual sports interest your teenager the most?

Check all that apply: ☑

48. Figure skating ☐
49. Bowling ☐
50. Swimming ☐
51. Rollerblading ☐
52. Gymnastics ☐

E. *Sports activities for young people*

What individual sports interest your teenager the most?

Check all that apply: ☑

53. Judo, combat sports ☐
54. Bodybuilding, weightlifting ☐
55. Outdoor activities (cross-country skiing, camping, hiking, canoeing) ☐
56. Circus-type activities (trapeze, juggling, trampoline) ☐
57. Athletics (running, jumping, throwing disciplines) ☐
58. Other: ☐

Please indicate the numbers of the three sports activities that interest your teenager most: ☐ ☐ ☐

F. *Activity schedule*

When should activities be offered?

Choose the appropriate number: ☑

	▲ Not at all important	▲ Somewhatimportant	▲ Important	▲ Very important
59. After school between 3:00 and 6:00 p.m.	1	2	3	4
60. After supper	1	2	3	4
61. On weekends	1	2	3	4
62. On pedagogical days	1	2	3	4
63. During spring break	1	2	3	4
64. During the Christmas holidays and summer vacation	1	2	3	4

Other suggestions: _____

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65. Do you know any organization(s) that the school could work with? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If so, please specify: _____

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR INPUT!